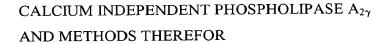
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## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A novel human phospholipase,  $iPLA_2\gamma$  ( $iPL_2\gamma$ ), is described. The complete genomic organization, complete nucleic acid sequence, and amino acid sequence have been identified. The sn-2-lipase activity of  $iPL_2\gamma$  is also described. In addition, methods for detecting and monitoring patient levels of  $iPL_2\gamma$  are described, as well as methods for treating disease conditions by modulating the activity of  $iPL_2\gamma$ .